

Patent claims

1. Method for processing state information in a communication system by means of a management network exhibiting a number of management levels (A, B, C), the state information being transmitted between an agent (AG) of one management level (B, C) and at least one manager (MA1, MA2) of a next-higher management level (A, B) for a state realignment, in which method
 - 10 - the manager (MA1, MA2) sends a request message (staAS) for performing the state realignment to the agent (AG),
 - the agent (AG) checks the state information with regard to deviations from a normal state, and
 - the agent (AG) sends changes in the state information to the manager (MA1, MA2) in one or more successive messages (staCN).
2. The method as claimed in claim 1, in which state attributes (OST, AST, UST) and/or status attributes (UNS, ALS, AVS) are used as state information.
- 20 3. The method as claimed in claim 2, in which the normal state is defined by means of predetermined values for the state attributes OST, AST, UST) and/or status attributes (UNS, ALS, AVS).
4. The method as claimed in one of the preceding
25 claims, in which state attributes (OST, AST, UST) for characterizing the operational readiness, the manageability and the use of a resource supported by the agent (AG) in the communication system is used as state information.
- 30 5. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, in which status attributes (UNS, ALS, AVS), which specify for a resource supported by the agent (AG) in the communication system whether it is in an unknown state, in an alarmed state or in a state of availability, is
35 used as state information.

6. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, in which the manager (MA1, MA2) also sends in the request message (staAS) a correlation information item (staAH) for a correlation of the respective request with the messages (staCN) containing the changed state information received by the agent (AG).

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7. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, in which the agent (AG) also sends in a message (staSA) for starting the state realignment a correlation information item (aliNI) for correlating the messages (staCN) containing the changed state information subsequently sent with the state realignment started in each case.

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8. The method as claimed in claim 7, in which the correlation information (aliNI) generated by the agent (AG) is also sent in the message or messages (staCN) containing the changed state information.

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9. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, in which the manager (MA1, MA2) controls the state realignment in dependence on at least one parameter (par) sent to the agent (AG).

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10. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, in which the manager (MA1, MA2) sends a parameter (par) by means of which the state realignment is automatically initiated by the agent (AG).

11. The method as claimed in claim 10, in which a parameter (par) is provided by the manager (MA1, MA2) with a parameter value (begT) which specifies a starting time for the automatic state realignment.

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12. The method as claimed in claim 10 or 11, in which a parameter (par) is provided by the manager (MA1, MA2) with a parameter value (endT) which specifies an end time for the automatic state realignment.

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13. The method as claimed in one of claims 10 to 12, in which the manager (MA1, MA2) provides a parameter (par)

with a parameter value (int) which specifies a time interval for a repetition of the automatic state realignment.

14. The method as claimed in one of claims 9 to 13, in
5 which the manager (MA1, MA2) provides a parameter (par) with a parameter value (relEN) which characterizes the resources for which changed state information must be transmitted by the agent (AG).

15. The method as claimed in one of claims 9 to 14, in
10 which the manager (MA1, MA2) provides a parameter (par) with a parameter value (admS) by means of which a running state realignment can be interrupted.

16. The method as claimed in one of Claims 9 to 15, in
15 which the manager (MA1, MA2) sends the parameter or parameters (par) to the agent (AG) in the request message (staAS).

17. A communication system for processing state information in a management network having a number of management levels (A, B, C), the state information being transmitted between an agent (AG) of a management level (e.g. B) and at least one manager (MA1, MA2) of a next-higher management level (e.g. A) for a state realignment, comprising

25 - facilities (M-CTR) in the manager (MA1, MA2) for sending a request message (staAS) for performing the state realignment to the agent (AG), and
- facilities (A-CTR) in the agent (AG) for checking the state information with regard to deviations from a normal state and for sending changes in the state information to the manager (MA1, MA2) in one or more successive messages (staCN).

30 35 18. The communication system as claimed in claim 17, in which state attributes (OST, AST, UST) and/or status attributes (UNS, ALS, AVS) are provided as state information.

19. The communication system as claimed in claim 18, in which the normal state is defined by means of predeterminable values for the state attributes (OST, AST, UST) and/or status attributes (UNS, ALS, AVS).

5 20. The communication system as claimed in one of claims 17 to 19, in which state attributes (OST, AST, UST) are provided for characterizing the operational readiness, the manageability and the use of a resource supported by the agent (AG) in the communication system as state information.

10 21. The communication system as claimed in one of claims 17 to 20, in which status attributes (UNS, ALS, AVS), which specify for a resource supported by the agent (AG) in the communication system whether it is in an unknown state, in an alarm state or in a state of availability, are provided as state information.

15 22. The communication system as claimed in one of claims 17 to 21, in which the state realignment can be controlled by the facilities (M-CTR) in the manager (MA1, MA2) in dependence on at least one parameter (par) sent to the agent (AG).

20 23. The communication system as claimed in one of claims 17 to 22, in which the facilities (M-CTR) in the manager (MA1, MA2) send a parameter (par) by means of which the state realignment can be automatically initiated by the agent (AG).

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